Loadshedding by MPSEB in Bhopal

1721. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that heavy load-shedding is being resorted to everyday by the Madhya Pradesh Electricity Board in Bhopal and other parts of the State of Madhya Pradesh for the past many months;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) whether Government are aware that the availability of electricity will be more erratic during the ensuing summer season in the State; and

(d) what action Government propose to take to supply regular electricity in Bhopal and other parts of Madhya Pradesh to save the people from the agony of loadshedding particularly, during the coming summer season ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU) : (a) and (b) Power supply to various categories of consumers in a State is regulated by the respective State Government/Electricity Board depending upon the demand and availability of power. Power cuts/restrictions become necessary when the availability of power is less than the requirement. At present, there is no energy cut in Madhya Pradesh. However, there is 30% demand cut on industries w.e.f. 16-11-1992. The agricultural consumers in the State are being supplied power to the extent of 16 hour 30 minutes/day.

(c) and (d) During Summer season, the power requirement of weather-beating loads increases and it may become necessary to impose additional power cuts/restrictions to ensure operation of the grid within safe parameters. Various measures being taken to improve the availability of power in Madhya Pradesh include expediting commissioning of new generating capacity, implementation of short gestation projects, improving the performance of existing power stations, reduction of Transmission and Distribution losses, implementation of demand management and energy conservation measures and arranging transfer of energy from surplus to deficit areas. Assistance is also being provided from the unallocated output of Central Sector Stations in Western Region from time to time.

Closure of Power Stations

1722. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that a large number of Thermal Power Stations are blantantly violating pollution norms in spite of serious warnings, if so, what are the names and locations of such Thermal Power Stations;

(b) whether Government propose to close such Thermal Power Stations until they fulfil the pollution control norms; and

(c) what penal action Government propose to take against such units ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU) : (a) to (c) The requisite information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

Power shortage in Karnataka

1723. SHRI J. P. JAVALI : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Karnataka which was a pioneer in Hydro Electricity generation is lagging behind in power generation, resulting in acute power shortage in the State :

(b) if so, the reasons for the gap in power production and its demand;

(c) whether non-clearance of power projects of the State by the Central Government has resulted in the shortage; and

(d) if so, the details of uncleared projects and also the reasons therfor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU) : (a) and (b) During the period April 92-January, 1993, the energy requirement in Karnataka was